National Institute for Organic Agriculture

1065. SHR! A. VUAYA RAGHAVAN: WilUhe Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a National Institute for Organic Agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government received any request from the Kerala Government In this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARA YAN YADAV): (a) and (b) During the Tentli Plan, a proposal for a new scheme, 'National Project on Organic Farming' is under process for approval which includes setting up of a National Instiute of Organic Farming, whose function will be to promote and facilitate various aspects of organic farming In the country. The components include the following:

- Putting in place a system of certification of organic produce Including prescribing National Standards of organic farming.
- Capacity building for organic farming.
- Support to commercial production units of organic Inputs like fruits and vegetables waste compost units, bio-fertilizer production units and hatcheries for vermiculture etc.
- Promotion and extension of organic farming.

(c) to (e) The State Government of Kerala is one of the States, who **have** requested for setting up of National Institute of Organic Farming (NIOF) in their States. Their request alongwith similar requests received from other States **will** be considered at appropriate time.

Restructuring co-operative credit structure

1066. SHRI PRASANTACHATTERJEE: Will theMinister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised a Rs, 8000 crore financial package for restructuring the co-operative credit structure in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?